

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Office Action dated February 5, 2007. This Office Action rejected some claims, allowed others, and indicated that the remaining claims are allowable. In light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of all pending claims.

Independent Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,781,529 issued to Liang (Liang). Applicants have amended independent Claim 1 by incorporating the limitations of dependent Claim 10, which was indicated as allowable. In light of this amendment, Applicants submit that independent Claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the cited sections of Liang.

Additionally, Applicants have amended Claim 11. This claim was originally dependent upon Claim 1. Independent Claim 11 was amended to recite the limitations of independent Claim 1 as originally filed. Given that the Office Action indicated Claim 11 was allowable, Applicants submit that Claim 11, as amended, is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 13 as originally filed was dependent upon Claim 1. The Office Action indicated that Claim 13 was allowable. Applicants have amended Claim 13 by incorporating the limitations of originally filed independent Claim 1. It is noted that Claim 13 as originally filed, was indicated as allowable in the first Office Action over Liang. In light of the amendments to Claim 13, Applicants submit that Claim 13 is now in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims depend directly or indirectly from independent Claims 1 and 14. Independent Claim 14 was allowed, and independent Claim 1 should now be in condition for allowance by virtue of the amendments to include the limitations of allowable Claim 10. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the application and the claims therein are believed to be in condition for allowance without any further examination and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at 512-439-5087.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric A. Stephenson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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